



I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV528705905US, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: 8/30/04 Signature: Melody Almberg  
(Melody Almberg)

Docket No.: 291958176US2  
Client Ref No. P97-0013US3

(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Batz Jr. et al.

Allowed: June 2, 2004

Application No.: 09/390,501

Confirmation No.: 7023

Filed: September 3, 1999

Art Unit: 1753

For: METHODS FOR PLATING  
SEMICONDUCTOR WORKPIECES  
USING A WORKPIECE-ENGAGING  
ELECTRODE ASSEMBLY WITH  
SEALING BOOT

Examiner: B. L. Mutschler

**COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS  
FOR ALLOWANCE UNDER 37 CFR §1.104(E)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Applicant has received the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance with the June 2, 2004 Notices of Allowance and Allowability regarding the above-identified application. Entry of the Statement into the record should not be construed as any agreement with or acquiescence in the reasoning stated by the Examiner. Each of the claims stands on its own merits and is patentable because of the combination it recites and not because of the presence or absence of any one particular element.

The Examiner's Statement was not prepared by Applicant and only contains the Examiner's possible positions in one or more reasons for allowability. Thus, any

interpretation with respect to the Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance should not be imputed to the Applicant.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0665, under Order No. 291958176US2 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: August 30, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By Paul T. Parker

Paul T. Parker

Registration No.: 38,264

PERKINS COIE LLP

P.O. Box 1247

Seattle, Washington 98111-1247

(206) 359-8000

(206) 359-7198 (Fax)

Attorneys for Applicant